

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1234
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 6, 2007; March 14, 2007, read
1-3 first time and referred to Subcommittee on Higher Education;
1-4 April 23, 2007, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute from Committee on Education by the following vote:
1-6 Yeas 6, Nays 0; April 23, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1234 By: Zaffirini

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to a master plan for higher education in this state.
1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-12 SECTION 1. Subsections (a-1) and (a-2), Section 61.051,
1-13 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:
1-14 (a-1) To ensure that students enrolled at institutions of
1-15 higher education are sufficiently prepared to meet the challenges
1-16 associated with participation in the public affairs of the state
1-17 and in the global economy, the [The] board shall develop a
1-18 [five-year] master plan for higher education in this state for a
1-19 period of years determined by the board. The [five-year] plan must
1-20 [shall] take into account the resources of private or independent
1-21 institutions of higher education in this state and must include:
1-22 (1) reexamination of the purposes, needs, and goals of
1-23 higher education in this state;
1-24 (2) consideration of methods for defining the roles
1-25 and missions of institutions of higher education in a way that is
1-26 consistent with this state's needs and goals;
1-27 (3) consideration of more effective methods for
1-28 funding higher education;
1-29 (4) consideration of methods for establishing a
1-30 coherent long-term student financial aid strategy that takes into
1-31 account both student financial need and student achievement;
1-32 (5) recommendations for strengthening collaboration
1-33 between two-year and four-year institutions of higher education;
1-34 (6) recommendations for developing and reinforcing
1-35 long-term collaboration between and among primary, secondary, and
1-36 postsecondary educational institutions;
1-37 (7) consideration of:
1-38 (A) the state's current and needed allocation of
1-39 resources for medical education, including graduate medical
1-40 education;
1-41 (B) the current and needed geographic
1-42 distribution of those resources; and
1-43 (C) the value of associating a medical school
1-44 with a general academic teaching institution;
1-45 (8) in consultation with the state demographer and at
1-46 least one general academic teaching institution, medical and dental
1-47 unit, private or independent institution of higher education, and
1-48 public junior college, assessment of:
1-49 (A) the number of new faculty members needed to
1-50 achieve the goals of the master plan, and the academic disciplines
1-51 in which the new faculty members are or will be needed;
1-52 (B) the number of qualified persons available to
1-53 serve as faculty members in this state and throughout the nation and
1-54 the demand for the services of those persons in this state and
1-55 throughout the nation; and
1-56 (C) the capacity of public and private
1-57 institutions of higher education in this state to prepare persons
1-58 who are qualified to serve as faculty members at institutions in
1-59 this state and across a broad spectrum of academic disciplines;
1-60 (9) identification of appropriate incentives,
1-61 including concurrent enrollment and dual credit, and requirements
1-62 to facilitate seamless student transitions between and among high
1-63 schools, public junior colleges, public technical institutes,

2-1 public state colleges, general academic teaching institutions, and
 2-2 medical and dental units;

2-3 (10) consideration of concerns regarding the current
 2-4 and projected student enrollment and enrollment capacity of The
 2-5 University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University and of
 2-6 methods for ensuring that those institutions maintain
 2-7 competitiveness with other public and private flagship
 2-8 institutions of higher education;

2-9 (11) consideration of the value of creating additional
 2-10 four-year flagship public research institutions of higher
 2-11 education, including consideration of methods for:

2-12 (A) selecting the location of those
 2-13 institutions; and

2-14 (B) ensuring that those institutions admit a
 2-15 qualified and diverse student body;

2-16 (12) analysis of alternative methods of funding
 2-17 institutions of higher education, with emphasis on the research
 2-18 components of those institutions; and

2-19 (13) consideration of whether to add new components to
 2-20 the TEXAS Grant program and other state financial aid programs for
 2-21 higher education, including a component that specifically
 2-22 addresses the needs of students at the preschool and primary and
 2-23 secondary school levels, ensures that those students commit to and
 2-24 succeed in postsecondary education, and includes a work-study
 2-25 requirement.

2-26 (a-2) The board shall periodically review and revise the
 2-27 [~~five-year~~] master plan developed under Subsection (a-1). As a
 2-28 specific element of its review, the board shall identify and
 2-29 analyze the degree to which the plan reflects the continuing higher
 2-30 education needs of this state, as well as any policy changes
 2-31 necessary to improve overall implementation of the plan and the
 2-32 fiscal impact of those changes. The board shall establish
 2-33 procedures for monitoring the board's implementation of the plan,
 2-34 including an analysis of the degree to which its current activities
 2-35 support implementation of the plan and any change in board rules or
 2-36 practices necessary to improve implementation of the plan. The
 2-37 board shall identify additional strategies necessary to achieve the
 2-38 goals of the plan, emphasizing implementation by institutions of
 2-39 higher education and specific recommendations for the different
 2-40 regions of the state. The board shall notify each institution of
 2-41 higher education of all strategies for implementing the plan.

2-42 SECTION 2. Subsections (a) and (i-1), Section 61.059,
 2-43 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

2-44 (a) To finance a system of higher education and to secure an
 2-45 equitable distribution of state funds deemed to be available for
 2-46 higher education, the board shall perform the functions described
 2-47 in this section. Funding policies shall:

2-48 (1) allocate resources efficiently and provide
 2-49 incentives for programs of superior quality and for institutional
 2-50 diversity;

2-51 (2) provide incentives for supporting the [~~five-year~~]
 2-52 master plan developed and revised under Section 61.051; and

2-53 (3) discourage unnecessary duplication of course
 2-54 offerings between institutions and unnecessary construction on any
 2-55 campus.

2-56 (i-1) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year,
 2-57 the board shall make and submit to the legislature findings and
 2-58 recommendations regarding the degree to which the current higher
 2-59 education funding system, including formula funding and any other
 2-60 transfers of legislative appropriations to institutions of higher
 2-61 education, supports the implementation of the [~~five-year~~] master
 2-62 plan developed and revised under Section 61.051. The board may
 2-63 include its findings and recommendations in the biennial report
 2-64 submitted to the legislature under Section 61.051. In its
 2-65 findings, the board must:

2-66 (1) identify funding incentives that would encourage
 2-67 implementation of the [~~five-year~~] master plan by institutions of
 2-68 higher education; and

2-69 (2) assess the accountability of institutions of

3-1 higher education with respect to legislative appropriations to
3-2 evaluate institutional allocation of financial resources in
3-3 accordance with the [~~five-year~~] master plan.

3-4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3-5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3-6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3-7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3-8 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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